SAUDI ARABIA

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Saudi Arabia ratified CEDAW in 2000, with reservations relating to the norms of Islamic law and that the Kingdom does not consider itself bound by Article 9(2) (nationality) and Article 29(1) (dispute resolution).

Constitution

The Basic Law of Governance does not include a provision on gender equality or prohibition of discrimination based on sex or gender. The Basic Law of Governance guarantees the principle of equality in general. Article 8 states: "Government in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is based on the premise of justice, consultation and equality in accordance with the Islamic Sharia." Article 47 states: "The right to litigation is guaranteed to citizens and residents of the Kingdom on an equal basis."

NATIONALITY LAW

NATIONALITY

Women do not have the same rights as men to pass nationality to their children or to a foreign spouse. The Council of Ministers Resolution No. 406 of 12/11/2012 addresses the situation of children of Saudi women married to a foreign man, including that the State is to bear their residence fees and allows them to work in the private sector. The children of Saudi women can also benefit from the Citizen's Account Program, which provides entitlements to cash payments.

The colour codes indicate whether the laws comply with international human rights standards, the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Violence against Women, and recommendations of the country’s Universal Periodic Review.

YES

The law provides for gender equality and/or protection from gender-based violence and is substantially compliant with international standards. A green category does not indicate that the law is perfect or that gender justice in the relevant topic area has been fully achieved.

NO

The law does not provide for gender equality and/or there is no or minimal protection from gender-based violence.

Partly

Some gender justice aspects of the law have been addressed, but important gender inequalities remain.

Partly

Some gender justice aspects of the law have been addressed, but important gender inequalities remain.

No available data or inadequate information.
Gender Justice

**Protection from Gender Equality and Does the Law Ensure**

Saudi Arabia's respective Universal Periodic Reviews. The Elimination of Violence against Women and country recommendations under the country's

The colour-coded representation below provides a comparison of the laws identified in the country

Gender Justice in the relevant topic area has been fully achieved. The Basic Law does not include a provision on gender equality or prohibition of discrimination.

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that the Kingdom does not consider itself bound by Article 9(2) (nationality) and Article 29(1)

Saudi Arabia stipulate that a person convicted of a rape crime is punishable in any case.

Adultery

Adultery is criminalized by Sharia law (zina offence). Homosexual conduct between consenting adults is criminalized by Sharia law.

Sexual orientation

Prostitution is prohibited by Sharia law.

Sex work and anti-prostitution laws

Legal orientation

The Labour Law prohibits employment of women in hazardous operations or harmful industries. The Minister prescribes occupations and jobs that are deemed harmful to women. The law also prohibits women from working at night, except in situations determined by the Minister.

Dismissal for pregnancy

Under Article 155 of the Labour Law employers are prohibited from dismissing a woman because she takes maternity leave.

Paid maternity leave

Women are entitled to 10 weeks of maternity leave, which is fully paid by the employer. This is less than the ILO standard of 14 weeks.

Domestic workers

Domestic workers are not covered by the full protections of the Labour Law. A Ministerial Decree No. 310 dated 7/9/1434 H (2013) was issued for the Regulation of Domestic Workers. The Decree regulates the employment of domestic workers and sets out minimum entitlements. Employers are required to treat domestic workers with dignity and to ensure their safety.